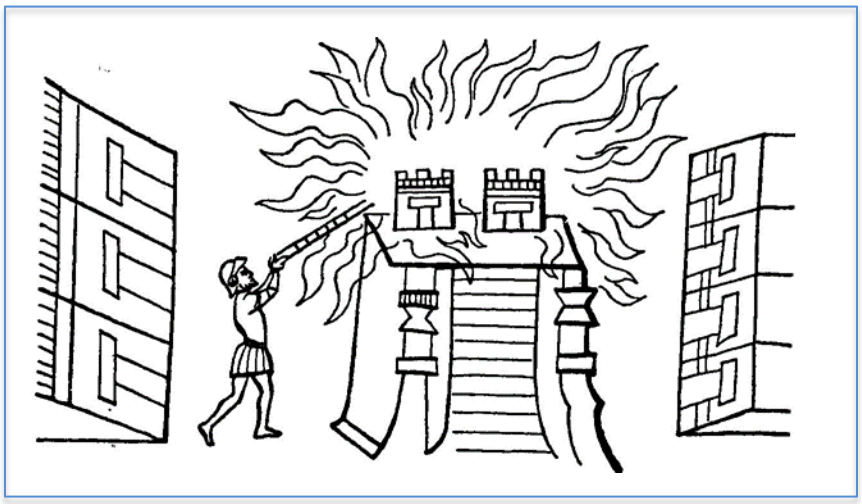
HIST 227: Latin American Cultural Traditions

SYLLABUS for SPRING 2022 RICE UNIVERSITY

VERSION 1/8/2022



Spaniards burn the Templo Mayor of Tenochtitlán. *Codex florentino*.

Note: This version of the syllabus will not be updated after the first week of class. All changes will be made directly in Canvas. Please see the Course Modules, which will have any updated readings and topics of each class meeting.

Contact Information

Instructor: Alida Metcalf

Email: acm5@rice.edu

Office Hours: Unless otherwise announced, Thursdays 2-4 HUMA 322 (Open Door) or by appointment.

Description

One simple phrase sums up the approach that we will take in this class: ***"three old worlds came together to create a new world."*** This course invites you to study the origins and development of Latin American culture from the three "old" worlds—the Native American, the Iberian, and the African—that came together to create the "new" world that is Latin America. Over the course of

the semester, we will explore how these three cultural traditions met and created a unique culture in the Americas both during periods of great change, when cultural traditions adapted rapidly, as well as in times of continuity, when cultural traditions changed little.

We will begin with an overview of Iberia, Africa, and America before 1492. Then we will turn to a time of tremendous change, a time of shattering encounters between Europeans, Africans, and Indians in the sixteenth century. The encounter between these people of "old" worlds forever altered the lives of their descendants in the "new" world. After the conquests, the seventeenth century ushered in several centuries of continuity. During this time, Indian, European, and African ways of life blended in the colonies of Spain and Portugal and created a new and distinctly "Latin American" society. We will examine this society by studying the lives of ordinary people who lived in colonial Latin America, and we will pay particular attention to how a new social order emerged that placed Spaniards on top and Indians and Africans on the bottom. An age of revolution brought the colonial period to an end, but many features of the cultural social order continued through the nineteenth century. Through the eyes of Latin America's most famous novelist, Gabriel García Márquez, we will see how García Márquez's fictional town of Macondo serves as a metaphor for the chaotic century following Latin American Independence. Finally, we shall focus on the economic, demographic, political, and cultural realities of modern Latin America.

My goal is to give you a synthetic overview of the history of Latin America that will serve you in your studies at Rice and beyond and especially in your future professional lives. I hope, too, to spark a life-long interest in Latin American history and culture.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Historical Awareness: Students will develop an understanding of Latin American history, as well as an awareness of alternative and competing narratives
2. Research and use of sources: students will be given opportunities to work with a range of sources
3. Historiography: students will be exposed to a variety of scholarly writings
4. Writing: students will develop a scholarly-historical voice through their writing projects

Required Texts and Materials

Garcia Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

Leon-Portilla, *The Broken Spears*

Echevarria, *Latin American Short Stories*

Sweet & Nash, *Struggle and Survival*

Hernandez-Sametier, *Shelter*

And additional readings as listed in the Course Modules in Canvas.

Exams and Papers

Pass/Fail Map Quiz: all students must pass (multiple tries permitted)

2 Mid-term exams; each will count 20%

1 Mid-term essay; 25%

Final Paper: 35%

Course Work

The bulk of the work for this course consists of reading. Please plan your schedule so that you will have blocks of quiet time where you can read undisturbed. Plan to have the reading done *before* the class for which it is assigned. Our class meetings will consist of lectures and discussions that may or may not always coincide exactly with the assigned readings. You will want to take notes in class, both from the lectures and the discussions. Your notes should define all major terms posted in the PowerPoint and reproduce the main idea, concept, or point of the lecture.

Absence Policies

This course meets three times a week and attendance is expected and recorded. Students who must miss class because of serious illness, family emergencies, religious holidays, or university business have the obligation of letting the professor know in advance, or immediately after the absence. Such absences will be excused. All other absences will be considered unexcused and will be held against you. Unexcused absences can be made up--please discuss how with the professor.

Rice Honor Code

In this course, all students will be held to the standards of the Rice Honor Code, a code that you pledged to honor when you matriculated at this institution. If you are unfamiliar with the details

of this code and how it is administered, you should consult the Honor System Handbook at http://honor.rice.edu/honor-system-handbook/. This handbook outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of your academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process.

Disability Resource Center

If you have a documented disability or other condition that may affect academic performance you should: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with the Disability Resource Center (Allen Center, Room 111 / adarice@rice.edu / x5841) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) talk with me to discuss your accommodation needs.

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is only a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice. All changes will be posted in Canvas.

Books to Purchase

The following books are required reading and are available for purchase in the bookstore:

Miguel Leon Portilla, *The Broken Spears* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1990)

Gabriel García Márquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (Harper Perennial Modern Classics ed.)

Roberto González Echevarría, ed. *Oxford Book of Latin American Short Stories* (Oxford ed.)

David G, Sweet & Gary B. Nash, *Struggle and Survival in Colonial America* (UC Press ed)

Arturo Hernandez-Sametier, *Shelter: Notes from a Detailed Migrant Children's Facility* Luna Triste Press, 2020.

Zotero

Zotero is a free, open source program that manages sources, creates citations, and offers easy ways to keep digital readings and research organized. Rice supports Zotero and offers workshops through the Digital Media Commons. All students will download Zotero and set up their own libraries. All will participate in the class group library. Many readings assigned for the course

will be posted in the class group library, and students will develop their own personal libraries to use in the writing of the mid-term essay and final paper.

To use Zotero, you will need to install two things

- The Zotero application itself
- A connector to allow your browser to save citations to Zotero

To install

- Go to the Zotero download page at **https://www.zotero.org/download/**
- Download the Zotero application and install it on your computer.
- Download a Zotero connector for the web browser of your choice. Zotero connectors are available for Firefox, Google Chrome and Safari. For better performance and more features, use Firefox and Google Chrome.
    - Open the download page with Firefox, it prompts you to install the Firefox connector.
    - Open the download page with Google Chrome, it prompts you to install the Chrome connector.

Course Schedule

Monday, January 10, 2022 Course Introduction

The Old Worlds

The Americas before 1492

Wednesday, January 12, 2022: Earliest Americans & the Rise of Civilization in the Americas

Reading:

1. Earliest Americans: read 2:
    a. "Clues to Earliest Americans in 11,700 year-old campsite," *NYT* 3-25-93;
    b. "Corn in the New World, A Relative Latecomer," *NYT* 3-7-1995;
    c. "Human Presence in the Americas is Pushed Back a Millennium," *NYT* 2-11-97.
    d. "12,000 Years Ago, Humans and Climate Change Made a Deadly Team," *NYT* **6-**17-16

2. Rise of the Classical Civilizations: read 2:

a. "The Early Maya Murals at San Bartolo, Guatemala," Peabody Museum at Harvard University website: https://www.peabody.harvard.edu/node/86
b. "Live by the Pen, Die by the Sword," *NYT* 7-17-2001; "Maya Collapse and Modern Society," *NYT* 4-14-2011.
c. On the Moche: "Lost Civilization Yields its Treasure as Thieves Fall Out," *NYT* 7-29-1994'
d. "Objects from a Long-Vanished Peru, Parading all their Magnificent Plumage," *NYT* 7-5, 2008.

How to access ***The New York Times:*** Access from the database held by the library. To find the *NYT* database, go to the Fondren Library homepage and click on RESEARCH GUIDES. Once in the guides, look for NEWSPAPERS. There you will see **New York Times** "Access to the New York Times via the web or mobile device." You will need to activate your complimentary access to the New York Times, a subscription provided to you by Rice.

For articles before 2007, use the New York Times (Historical). You can find this on the RESEARCH GUIDES—NEWSPAPERS—HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS.

If you have any questions, call the reference desk at 713 348-5113 or 713 348-5119. The librarians are there to help you and will be glad to answer your questions. Note that the reference desk is open Mon-Thurs. 9-5 and Friday 9-4.

Friday, January 14, 2022: Andean America: Inca Empire

Reading, pick 2:

a. "The Incas of the Andes" by Susan Ramirez, " in *Oxford Research Encyclopedias,* April 2018.
b. "Machu Picchu" by Willie Hiatt, in *Oxford Research Encyclopedias,* July 2015.
c. "Quechua by Alan Durston, in *Oxford Research Encyclopedias,* October 2015.

How to access *The Oxford Research Encyclopedias.* Go the Fondren Library homepage and type *in Oxford Research Encyclopedias* in the **One Search** box. Click on the search icon [magnifying glass]. On the next screen, click on ADVANCED SEARCH. A search box opens. Under Oxford Research Encyclopedias, in the AND Any field contains type in "Machu Picchu" OR "Quechua" or "Incas" and click on SEARCH.

If you have any questions, call the reference desk at 713 348-5113 or 713 348-5119. The librarians are there to help you and will be glad to answer your questions. Note the reference desk is open Mon-Thurs. 9-5 and Friday 9-4.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022: The Post Classical World of the Aztecs

Reading:

Foreword and Introduction, *The Broken Spears*, xi-xlix.

Africa before 1492

Friday, January 21, 2022 Mediterranean Africa

Reading:

- "Rome's Glory is Now Tunisia's" *NYT* Oct 18, 1998.
- Barbara Scardigli, "Early Relations Between Rome and Carthage," in A Companion to the Punic Wars (John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, 2011), 28–38. https://doi.org/10.1002/9781444393712.ch2. (ZOTERO)
- Naphtali Lewis, *On Government and Law in Roman Egypt: Collected Papers of Naphtali Lewis*, American Studies in Papyrology ; No. 33 (Atlanta, Ga: Scholars Press, 1995). (ZOTERO)

Monday, January 24, 2022: West African Kingdoms

Reading:

a) Basil Davidson, *A History of West Africa, 1000-1800*, New revised edition, Growth of African Civilization (Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex, England: Longman, 1977), only chapter five, ZOTERO

b) Songhai Empire - Basil Davidson, *A History of West Africa, 1000-1800*, New revised edition, Growth of African Civilization (Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex, England: Longman, 1977), 68-85, Zotero.

c) EC Ejiogu, "State Building in the Niger Basin in the Common Era and Beyond, 1000–Mid 1800s: The Case of Yorubaland," *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 46, no. 6 (December 1, 2011): 593–614, https://doi.org/10.1177/0021909611405831.

MAP QUIZ DUE Post by 11 pm in Canvas. Countries and capitals of all Central and South American countries and the Caribbean nations of Cuba, Haiti, & The Dominican Republic. All students are expected to pass this test with a grade of 90 or higher. Multiple tries permitted.

Wednesday, January 26, 2022: Trans-Saharan Trade

Reading:

a. "The Trans-Saharan Gold Trade (7th-14th Century) Works of Art Essay," Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art. On Canvas--Files.
b. "Textile Fragment from the Shrine of San Librada, Sigüenza Cathedral," Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art. On Canvas--Files.
c. Leo Africanus. "Description of Timbuktu," The Description of Africa. 1526. On Canvas--Files.
d. Ghislaine Lydon, "Slavery, Exchange and Islamic Law: A Glimpse from the Archives of Mali and Mauritania," *African Economic History* 33 (2005): 117–148. (AVAILABLE THROUGH JSTOR)

To find an article in JSTOR, Access from the database held by the library. To find JSTOR, go the Fondren Library homepage and click on the DATABASES button. Once on the database page, go to Search for Databases (upper right) and type in JSTOR. Select JSTOR. You will need to log in with your Rice netID and pw. Once in JSTOR, use the Advanced Search to type in author and title. Then you may download the pdf or read online.

Iberia before 1492

Friday, January 28, 2022: Roman, Moorish, Reconquest Iberia

Reading:

a. "Textile Fragment (and brief description)." Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Metropolitan Museum of Art. On Canvas--Files.
b. Barbara Fuchs, "In Memory of Moors: 'Maurophilia' and National Identity in Early Modern Spain," *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 2, no. 1 (2002): 109–25. (AVAILABLE THROUGH JSTOR)

Monday, January 31, 2022: Ferdinand and Isabella

Reading:

a. "Coexistence in Medieval Spain, at Least Until 1492" *NYT* Nov 13, 1992;
b. "With These Words, Spain Banished Jews" *NYT* Apr 1, 1993.
c. Primary Source: "Coexistence in the Medieval Spanish Kingdoms." Canvas--files.

Wednesday, February 2, 2022: FIRST EXAM

Shattering Encounters

Friday, February 4, 2022, 2022 1492 & 1500

Reading: Columbus letter to Santangel, 1492 and Pedro Vaz de Caminha letter to king of Portugal, 1500. Find both in Parry and Keith, *New Iberian World*, Zotero.

View these two would maps:

Carta del Cantino, 1502 http://acm5.blogs.rice.edu/color-plate-6/Links to an external site.

Martin Waldseemüller, *Universalis Cosmographia* http://acm5.blogs.rice.edu/figure-2-2/Links to an external site.

Mexico

Monday, February 7, 2022: The Codex Florentino

Reading:

Portilla, *The Broken Spears*, 3-62.

Wednesday, February 9, 2022: The Conquest of Mexico from the Nahua Perspective

Reading:

Portilla, *The Broken Spears*, 63-149.

Peru

Monday, February 14, 2022: The Conquest of Peru from an Andean Perspective

Reading:

a) Guaman Poma, "*Tocay Capac*, The First Inca" in Echevarria, *Latin American Short Stories*. Guaman Poma Topay Capac.pdf Download Guaman Poma Topay Capac.pdf

b) "19. El capitulo de la conquista espanola y las guerras civiles" , Guaman Poma, *Nueva corónica y buen gobierno* (1615), Det Kongelige Bibliotek, http://www5.kb.dk/permalink/2006/poma/372/es/text/?open=idm45821230525616. Look at the images and if you can read Spanish, follow as you can. Focus on pages 370-394.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022: The Ecological and Biological Consequences of 1492

Reading:

Crosby, "Old World Plants and Animals in the New World," ZOTERO.

Las Casas, "Plague of Ants," in Echevarría, *Latin American Short Stories. Las Casas Ants.pdf Download Las Casas Ants.pdf*

Friday, February 18, 2022: Demographic Collapse

Reading:

Crosby, "Conquistador y pestilencia," Zotero.

Colonial Society

Indigenous Peoples

Monday, February 21, 2022: Indians under Spanish Rule in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

Reading:

Sweet & Nash, "Isabel Moctezuma," "Martín Ocelotl" and "Diego Vasicuio."

African Peoples

Wednesday, February 23, 2022: African Peoples

Reading:

a) Sweet & Nash, "Juan de Morga and Gertrudis de Escobar" and "Miguel Hernandez."
b) "On Both Sides, Reason for Remorse," *NYT* Apr 5, 1998.

Mestizaje

Friday, February 25, 2022: 2022: Mestizaje

Reading:

Sweet & Nash, "Enrico Martínez," "Beatriz de Padilla," "Francisco Baquero," and "Micaela Angela Carrillo."

Revolution and Independence

Monday, February 28, 2022: Revolution: Paris, St. Domingue, Dolores, Cadiz

Reading: TBA

Wednesday, March 2, 2022: Second Exam

The Nineteenth Century

Friday, March 4, 2022: Independence in Latin America

Reading:

One Hundred Years of Solitude, to the founding of Macondo.

Monday, March 7, 2022: Liberals vs. Conservatives.

Reading:

One Hundred Years of Solitude, well into the civil wars.

Wednesday, March 9, 2022: Economic Development

Reading:

One Hundred Years of Solitude, through the arrival of the train.

Friday, March 11, 2022: History and Magic Realism

Reading:

One Hundred Years of Solitude, through the strike.

Monday, March 21, 2022: Railroads and Monoculture

Reading:

One Hundred Years of Solitude through the rains.

Wednesday, March 23, 2022: Cash-crop Agriculture

Reading:
Bucheli, Marcelo. "Enforcing Business Contracts in South America: The United Fruit Company and Colombian Banana Planters in the Twentieth Century." *The Business History Review*, vol. 78, no. 2, 2004, pp. 181–212. Available through JSTOR.

OR

Luna, Francisco Vidal, Herbert S. Klein, and William Summerhill. "The Characteristics of Coffee Production and Agriculture in the State of São Paulo in 1905." *Agricultural History* 90, no. 1 (2016): 22-50. Available through JSTOR.

AND
continue reading *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, if you have not yet finished the novel.

Friday, March 25, 2022: One Hundred Years of Solitude

Reading: Yuxin Zheng, "Sexual Violence in One Hundred Years of Solitude," *The Onyx Review* 4(2018): 30-36.

Finish *One Hundred Years of Solitude!!!!!*

Modern Latin America

Monday, March 28, 2022: The Import Substitution Model

Reading:

Search in the *Historical New York Times*, find and read one article on industry and/or manufacturing in Brazil or Colombia or Mexico in 1950s – 1980s. Upload to our group Zotero site and tag "industry" "manufacturing" "Brazil" "Colombia" "Mexico" as appropriate.

How to find historical Newspapers:

Go the Fondren Library homepage and click on RESEARCH GUIDES. Once in the guides, look for NEWSPAPERS—HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS—The Americas. Then Select *New York Times (historical).* Suggestions for keyword searches: Brazil and manufacturing; Brazil and industry; Colombia and manufacturing; Colombia and industry. Then ender a date range: 1940-1980. For Mexico, you will need to filter out New Mexico. To do this type Mexico NOT "New Mexico" and industry.

Mid-term Essay Due

Wednesday, March 30, 2022: The Demographic Transition

Reading:

a) Bloom, David E., David Canning, and Jaypee Sevilla. "Demographic Transitions and the Demographic Dividend" in *The Demographic Dividend: A New Perspective on the Economic Consequences of Population Change*, 25-42. Santa Monica, CA; Arlington, VA; Pittsburgh, PA: RAND Corporation, 2003. Available through JSTOR in Fondren Databases.
b) "Latin America's Birth Surprise," *NYT* Jun 13, 1999 OR "Smaller Families Bring Big Change in Mexico," *NYT* Jun 8, 1999.

Friday, April 1, 2022: The Global City

Reading:

a) Tutino, "The Americas in the Twentieth-century World." Canvas.
b) Julio Ramón Ribeyro, "The Featherless Buzzards," in Echevarría, *Latin American Short Stories*

Monday, April 4, 2022: Authoritarianism

Reading:

a) Angel Rama, "Literature and Exile" in Stavans, *Latin American Essays*. Canvas.
b) Reinaldo Arenas, "The Parade Ends" in Echevarría, *Latin American Short Stories*

Wednesday, April 6, 2022: Changing Gender Roles

Reading:

a) Castellanos, "The Cooking Lesson," in Echevarría, *Latin American Short Stories*
b) If you read Spanish, see *"La ironía y la figura femenina en "Lección de cocina" de Rosario Castellanos,"* *Las Sin Sostén (Links to an external site.)*.

c) If you don't read Spanish, see Latin American Feminism through the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, pick 2 sections that interest you. https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-latin-america/

Latin America Today

Friday, April 8, 2022: Migration

Reading:

a) Sametier, *Shelter*.
b) Find one news article on immigration issues on the US Border. Upload to our group Zotero site. Tag as appropriate.

Monday, April 11, 2022: The Amazon

Reading:

Find a **peer reviewed academic article** on the Amazon Basin.

On Fondren homepage, in *One Search* type *Academic Search Complete*. In *Academic Search Complete*, search by Amazon or country and keyword. For example:

Amazon rainforest and history

Amazon Brazil mining

Amazon Peru roads

Be sure to filter for Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

Upload to our group Zotero site. Tag as appropriate.

Wednesday, April 13, 2022: Climate Change

Reading:

Find a **recent newspaper article** in the Latin American press that discusses climate change.

On Fondren homepage go to Research—Research Guides—**Newspapers** and then click on the tab **Geographical Location**. Select **Latin America and the Caribbean** from the pull down menu. Click on **Online Newspapers** (it is wrongly filed under Brazilian Newspapers). Then select **South/Central America or North America/Caribbean.** Now you will have links to newspapers from all over each country. Generally, there is always a small English-language paper (printed for foreigners and ex-pats). For example, for Peru. *El Comercio* is a major paper in Lima in Spanish. *The Peruvian Times* also published in Lima, is in English. But try to read a news story in Spanish, if only to get the basic gist.

Suggested searching strategies:

English: El Niño; climate change; fires; hurricanes;
Spanish: cambio climático; emisiones de carbono; calentamiento global
Save to our group Zotero site. Tag: "Climate," your country, the issue.

For English, use the library's subscription to LatinNews: On Fondren homepage go to Databases, then search for Latin American Weekly Report. Then you can do simple searches: climate; warming; If you can't get a full news story, read 3 summaries.

If you are not having any luck, go to this site and search for a story on climate change or global warming in a Latin American Country: (Links to an external site.)https://www.climatechangenews.com/

Friday, April 15, 2022: The Drug Trade

Reading:

One journal of opinion story on the US Mexico Drug trade. A journal of opinion will be a magazine such as: *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New Republic*, *Commentary*, *The Nation*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, etc. Typically, journals of opinion fall along the political spectrum, with some identifying as conservative, others as liberal, and others as neutral. See this site for more information: https://clark.libguides.com/c.php?g=877595&p=6302499

To find your article, use Google Advanced Search:

Go to Google, and click on Settings (tab at bottom left of your screen) then select **Advanced Search**

Enter your key works: “Mexico Drug Trade” or “Mexico Drug Cartel” or “Mexico Drug War”

Select your language: English

Under Site, type in the site domain of the journal of opinion you are interested in. Here are several examples of the Site Domains—you can find them by googling the magazine you are interested in:

The New Yorker: newyorker.com

The Atlantic Monthly: theatlantic.com

Commentary: commentary.org

The Christian Science Monitor:csmonitor.com

You can narrow your search results to the most recent year by clicking on "Tools" in the top menu bar. Go to "Any Time" and select "Past year" or you can enter in a "Custom range" for say the past two years.

Upload your article to our group Zotero site and tag as appropriate.

Monday, April 18, 2022: Covid in Latin America

Look at the Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Dashboard for Corona Virus Resources: https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html (Links to an external site.)

Find a Covid Dashboard for a Latin American Country

see Rice's Spatial Studies Lab dashboard for Brazil: https://coronavirusnobrasil.org/ (Links to an external site.)

For Mexico: https://datos.covid-19.conacyt.mx/#DOView (Links to an external site.)

For Colombia: https://coronaviruscolombia.gov.co/Covid19/index.html (Links to an external site.)

For other countries do simple google searches using "corona" or "covid" and country name and look for sites hosted by governments or research centers or the World Health Organization.

Come to class with observations about covid in Latin America.

Wednesday, April 20, 2022: Research

Reading:

Read the Assignment for the Final Paper and the GoogleDoc TBA

Try out the steps to find news stories, academic journal articles, and a primary source

Add two readings to your Zotero site.

Bring any questions to class.

Friday, April 22, 2022: Concluding Thoughts

Compose an Abstract: This is a one paragraph summary of what you will write your final paper about. Upload the Abstract into Canvas, Assignments.

Compile a Preliminary Bibliography: Find at least two books, two academic articles, two specialized encyclopedia articles, and two newspaper articles on your topic. Add to your personal Zotero bibliography. Export your bibliography from Zotero and upload it into Canvas, Assignments.

Suggestions for search terms: use country and keywords for best results, such as Mexico and Religion. Brazil and Samba. Colombia and Music.